



REMARKS

By this Amendment the abstract has been amended to shorten its length, the specification has been corrected with respect to various presentational errors, claim 1 has been amended to more concisely define the invention, and claims 6-12 have been corrected. Entry is requested.

In the outstanding final Office Action the examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Snedeker '872, he has rejected claims 8, 11 and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Snedeker '872 in view of Snedeker '229, and he has rejected claims 14, 15 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Snedeker in view of Aldridge.

These rejections must be withdrawn. Snedeker discloses a collar system for a firefighter's coat wherein the upper ends of a moisture barrier layer and a thermal barrier layer extend upwardly into the collar, the moisture barrier portion 130 being connectable to an outer collar part 68 and an upper thermal layer 116 being attachable to an inner collar part 52. However, unlike in the presently claimed invention, the upper edges of the portion 130 and the layer 116 are connected together by stitching 132, 134.

Aldridge disclose a hazardous duty garment with separable moisture barrier and thermal barrier. However, there is no teaching that could be transferred to Snedeker to suggest separating the portion 130 and the layer 116.

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Snedeker '229 disclose a collar system for a firefighter's coat, but nothing that would teach separating the portion 130 and the layer 116 in Snedeker '872.

The examiner's rejections should be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

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